Appln. No.: 10/688,018

Amendment Dated May 15, 2007 Reply to Office Action of April 27, 2007

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 10, 12-23, 25, 27 and 30-43 have been amended. Claim 44 has been added. No new matter is introduced herein. Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 10 and 12-44 are pending.

Claim 44 has been added. No new matter is introduced herein. Support for new independent claim 44 can be found, for example, at p. 12, line 2-p. 13, line 8; p. 22, line 15-p. 26, line 11; p. 34, lines 4-14 and Figs. 1 and 4 of the substitute specification.

Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 10 and 12-43 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In particular, claim 1 is directed toward a system that includes system elements and a method. Claim 1 has been amended to recite the features as system elements. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 10 and 12-43 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Official Action raised a number of issues regarding the claims. In particular, the Examiner has quoted portions of claims 1, 4-6, 12-15, 17, 18, 33 and 38-40 and has requested clarification regarding these claims. Each issue has been addressed. Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 10, 12-23, 25, 27 and 30-43 have been amended to clarify the language and for antecedent basis in accordance with the issues raised by the Examiner. In addition, claim 1 has been amended to depend from new independent claim 44. Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 10, 12-23, 25, 27 and 30-43 have been amended to correspond to new independent claim 44. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

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In view of the amendments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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LEA/DMG/ks

Dated: May 15, 2007

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 18-0350 for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: May 15, 2007

Kathleen Spina